

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

NOV 03 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for gray value correction of binary image data with a local grey value by a desired correction magnitude, which comprises:

quantizing the binary image data with n bits, wherein $n > 1$;

filtering the quantized image data with a low-pass filter having a filter window smaller than a screen cell; and

obtaining corrected quantized image data from the filtered image data with a threshold value operation.

Claim 2 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises providing the low-pass filter with an asymmetrical distribution of filter coefficients with respect to the filter window.

Claim 3 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises asymmetrically distributing the filter coefficients of the low-pass filter with respect to the filter window.

Applic. No. 10/811,475
Response Dated November 3, 2008
Responsive to Office Action of May 2, 2008

Claim 4 (original): The method according to claim 2, which further comprises obtaining the asymmetrical distribution of the filter coefficients from a symmetrical filter by shifting a filter function by fractions of an image point.

Claim 5 (original): The method according to claim 3, which further comprises obtaining the asymmetrical distribution of the filter coefficients from a symmetrical filter by shifting a filter function by fractions of an image point.

Claim 6 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises carrying out the threshold value operation with a threshold value selected as a function of the local gray value and of the desired correction magnitude.

Claim 7 (original): The method according to claim 6, which further comprises storing threshold values in a threshold value table.

Claim 8 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises:

Applic. No. 10/811,475
Response Dated November 3, 2008
Responsive to Office Action of May 2, 2008

carrying out the threshold value operation with threshold values selected as a function of the local gray value and of the desired correction magnitude; and

storing the threshold values in a threshold value table.

Claim 9 (original): The method according to claim 6, which further comprises determining a threshold value function $T1 = f1(G,dG)$ empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function $T2 = f2(G,dG)$ therefrom with approximation functions.

Claim 10 (original): The method according to claim 7, which further comprises determining a threshold value function $T1 = f1(G,dG)$ empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function $T2 = f2(G,dG)$ therefrom with approximation functions.

Claim 11 (original): The method according to claim 8, which further comprises determining a threshold value function $T1 = f1(G,dG)$ empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function $T2 = f2(G,dG)$ therefrom with approximation functions.

Applic. No. 10/811,475
Response Dated November 3, 2008
Responsive to Office Action of May 2, 2008

Claim 12 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises obtaining corrected binary image data from the corrected quantized image data by quantization with 1 bit.

Claim 13 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises quantizing the corrected quantized image data with 1 bit to obtain corrected binary image data.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A method for gray value correction of screened image data with a local grey value by a desired correction magnitude, which comprises:

quantizing the binary image data with n bits, wherein $n > 1$, such that, in a three dimensional representation, the quantized binary image data forms a plateau having vertical flanks;

filtering the quantized image data with a low-pass filter having a filter window smaller than a screen cell, such that, in the three dimensional representation, the slopes of the vertical flanks are reduced by the filtering; and

performing a threshold value operation to obtain corrected quantized image data from the filtered image data.

Applic. No. 10/811,475
Response Dated November 3, 2008
Responsive to Office Action of May 2, 2008

Claim 15 (original): The method according to claim 14, which further comprises asymmetrically distributing the filter coefficients of the low-pass filter with respect to the filter window.

Claim 16 (original): The method according to claim 15, which further comprises obtaining the asymmetrical distribution of the filter coefficients from a symmetrical filter by shifting a filter function by fractions of an image point.

Claim 17 (original): The method according to claim 14, which further comprises carrying out the threshold value operation with a threshold value selected as a function of the local gray value and of the desired correction magnitude.

Claim 18 (original): The method according to claim 17, which further comprises storing threshold values in a threshold value table.

Claim 19 (original): The method according to claim 17, which further comprises determining a threshold value function $T1 = f1(G, dG)$ empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function $T2 = f2(G, dG)$ therefrom with approximation functions.

Applic. No. 10/811,475
Response Dated November 3, 2008
Responsive to Office Action of May 2, 2008

Claim 20 (original): The method according to claim 18, which further comprises determining a threshold value function $T1 = f1(G, dG)$ empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function $T2 = f2(G, dG)$ therefrom with approximation functions.

Claim 21 (original): The method according to claim 14, which further comprises quantizing the corrected quantized image data with 1 bit to obtain corrected binary image data.